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(concluded)

compressing said ink absorbing member relative to at least another region thereof at least in the region of the ink absorbing member facing the opening of said ink receiving and transmitting means; and

withdrawing said ink from said ink-supply tank through the opening of said ink receiving and transmitting means.

**REMARKS**

This Supplemental Amendment After Appeal Under Rule 1.116 is submitted to further amend the claims as amended in the Amendment Under Rule 1.116 mailed on May 12, 1992, in view of the telephone interview with the Examiner had on June 18, 1992 in this application, which in turn was based on an office action, advisory action and personal interview with the Examiner in sister applications. In that telephone interview, as confirmed by an Examiner's Interview Summary Record of that date, the claims of this application would be allowable if rewritten to recite either (a) that the ink absorbing member substantially fills the ink tank; (b) the compression limitation corresponded to a like limitation agreed to in a personal interview had on June 11, 1992 with the Examiner with regard to claim 37 of application Serial No. 07/612,010 (Our Docket No. P-9050-930-B) (the "entire region" limitation) or (c) that the ink absorbing member carries substantially all of the ink in the tank when the tank is filled to the designed capacity of the ink tank.

By this Amendment, all of the independent claims presented include one of the three limitations cited by the Examiner so that, upon entry of the Amendment Under Rule 1.116 dated May 12, 1992 and this Supplemental Amendment After Appeal Under Rule 1.116, all of the claims in this case will be in condition for allowance. Accordingly, entry of the two Amendments

and passage of this case to issue is respectfully requested. This Amendment presents neither new issues nor new matter.

In this connection, the Examiner is reminded that by the Amendment Under Rule 1.116 mailed May 12, 1992 (see pages 9 and 10), applicants submitted a new declaration reducing the number of Japanese applications the priority of which is claimed with regard to the claims of this application. Please change the designation of foreign priority applications to delete reference to Japanese application No. 58-191529 filed October 13, 1983 and 58-224892 filed November 29, 1983, leaving a claim to priority under 35 U.S.C. §119 of three Japanese applications all filed May 22, 1984, Nos. 59-102841, 59-102842 and 59-102843.

Applicants take this opportunity to thank the Examiner for his consideration with regard to the telephone interview on June 18, 1992.

By this Amendment, applicants have amended independent claims 25, 48, 75, 98 and 125 and rewritten and amended dependent claim 134 to incorporate the entire region limitation referred to above and agreed to in connection with application Serial No. 07/612,010 (Our Docket No. P-9050-930-B). In particular, apparatus claims 25, 48, 75 and 98 have been amended to recite that the ink absorbing member is formed of a porous material mounted within the ink supply tank and having a surface facing the opening of the ink-supply delivery port, at least the entire region of the ink absorbing member at the surface facing the opening of the ink-supply delivery port being compressed so as to change the porosity of the region relative to at least another region of the ink absorbing member. Method claims 125 and 134, as amended, recite the steps of "compressing said ink absorbing member relative to at least another region thereof at least in the entire region at a

surface of said ink absorbing member facing said opening of said ink-supply delivery port so as to change the porosity of said compressed region.

With regard to this claim language and confirming the discussion at the interview of July 11, 1992 in the -B case, it is noted what when the arm 12d of ink supply guide 12 is inserted in ink supply port 41, it compresses the ink absorbing member (e.g., 160 in FIGS. 9 and 10) specifically in the entire region of the surface of the ink absorbing member facing the ink supply port (e.g., 141 in FIGS. 9 and 10). As is clear from, for example FIGS. 9 and 10, but also from the remaining figures, such compression does not occur along the entire surface of the ink absorbing member, a part of which is facing the ink supply port. Thus, the phrase "at least the entire region of said ink absorbing member at said surface facing said ink supply port" is intended to require compression only at the specific portion of the surface facing (opposed to) the ink supply port, but that such compression occur at all of that surface portion. In other words, the claim language is intended to require that all of the region of the ink absorbing member at the surface portion facing the ink supply port be compressed, but not that other regions of the ink absorbing member adjacent other portions of the same side of the ink absorbing member which do not face or oppose the ink supply port (e.g., the left hand portion of the bottom of ink absorbing member 160 of FIGS. 9 and 10) must be compressed. Applicants respectfully submit that independent claims 25, 48, 75, 98, 125 and 134, as amended, and the claims depending therefrom, are in condition for allowance and notice to that effect is respectfully requested.

Independent claims 39, 62, 89, 112 and 132 have been amended and dependent claim 127 rewritten in independent form to

recite that the ink absorbing member substantially fills the ink tank. Dependent claim 70 had been rewritten in independent form to include this limitation by the Amendment Under Rule 1.116 dated May 12, 1992. Applicants respectfully submit that the amendments made to claims 39, 62, 70, 89, 112, 127 and 132 are in accordance with the telephone interview with the Examiner and these claims, as amended, and those depending therefrom are in condition for allowance.

Dependent claims 33, 41, 56, 65, 83, 91, 106, 120, 128 and 135 have all been rewritten in independent form to incorporate the limitations of the independent (but not intermediate dependent) claims from which they depend so that these claims all recite that the ink absorbing member carries substantially all of the ink in the ink supply tank when the ink supply tank is filled to the designed capacity of the ink supply tank. Further, the projection limitation was cancelled from claims 33, 41, 56, 65, 83, 91, 106 and 120 and incorporated in dependent claims 34, 42, 57, 66, 84, 92, 107 and 121, which respectively depend therefrom. Dependent claims 44, 68 and 94 were also amended to affirmatively recite the projection limitation cancelled from the claims from which they depend. Accordingly, it is submitted that independent claims 34, 42, 66, 84, 92, 107, 121, 128 and 135, as amended, and the claims depending therefrom are all in condition for allowance.

The amendments made herein are without prejudice to the filing of a continuation application directed to the claims as presented before amendment, so that such claims can be further prosecuted.

By this Supplemental Amendment and the Amendment Under Rule 1.116 dated May 12, 1992, a total of twenty-three independent claims are presented, of which eleven were presented and the

payment of fees was authorized prior to this Supplemental Amendment. By the accompanying fee letter, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the undersigned attorneys deposit account No. 02-2845, the fee of \$864.00 for the additional 12 independent claims plus any deficiencies, if any, in the fees authorized.

Applicants have made a sincere effort to place each of the claims in condition for allowance and respectfully submit that claims 25-138 as amended by the Amendment Under Rule 1.116 dated May 12, 1992 and further amended by this Supplemental Amendment After Appeal are in condition for immediate allowance. If, upon review of the application, the Examiner is unable to issue an immediate Notice of Allowance, he is respectfully requested to telephone applicants' attorney at the number listed below with a view towards resolving the outstanding issues.

Respectfully submitted,



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REMARKS

Entry of the foregoing drawing amendments is respectfully requested for the reasons more particularly discussed in the accompanying Preliminary Amendment. No new matter is introduced by this Drawing Amendment.

Respectfully submitted,



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